

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air patently biased and politically slanted documentary attacking John Kerry's service in Vietnam over thirty years ago, and airing this days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and is contrary to all accepted ethical standards .

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Obviously partisan and unsubstantiated attacks on public figures should, at least be acknowledged as being such, but should not, in any case be mandated by a network as "required" to be broadcast by any station.

When large companies control the airwaves, and are dependant on the government for licensing and operations, we don't get "journalism, we get propaganda, and a concern more for the bottom line and less for the truth or of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.